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Fact Sheet

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VistA Evolution — Initial Operating Capability (IOC)

VISTA EVOLUTION PROGRAM

The VistA Evolution Program is divided into four feature sets that define the functionality being implemented over the life of the program. By Feature Set 4, VistA 4 – the product of VistA Evolution – will be a state-of-the-art scalable, modular, and certified enterprise electronic health record solution that is compliant with Meaningful Use Stage 1 and 2 functionalities.

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OVERVIEW

One year ago, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) and VA's Office of Information & Technology (OI&T) launched the VistA Evolution Program, a partnership effort to modernize VistA*. The goal of VistA Evolution is to provide essential health information technology to Veterans and clinicians. VistA Evolution will enable Veterans to have a seamless health record. It will allow VA to transform delivery of health care to be patient centric, team based, and quality driven. Vista Evolution tools are based on a foundation of population analytics and interoperability that will allow VA to increase Veteran access to care. The technical modernization of the electronic health record will both provide new capabilities to clinicians in the short term and also allow VA access to higher-quality, less expensive tools in the medium to long term.

Initial Operating Capability (IOC), the first of the four feature sets, delivered new user functionality, enabling industry standard capabilities and positively impacting the quality, safety, efficiency and satisfaction of healthcare for Veterans, Service members and their dependents. On Sept. 30, 2014, VA announced that the challenging milestones for 2014 were successfully met, including clinician-facing enhancements.

Elements of the initial feature set constituting IOC include:

- ***Joint Legacy Viewer (JLV)*** is the newest health record viewer available to users in in both DoD and VA, and provides three major advantages over older viewers. JLV combines data from the same clinical domain into one table, arranging it in chronological order, allowing clinicians to scan results and identify trends. JLV allows the user to configure displays to support various workflows (e.g., clinicians can create and save a view with tables of labs and medications, side-by-side, to evaluate the effectiveness of medications). JLV can display certain data, such as lab tests or medications, mapped to standard national codes in seven clinical domains, making it easier to compare data between systems, understand trends, and develop a more complete picture of a patient's history. On Oct. 1, 2014 JLV (v2.2) was made available at all VA Medical Centers, although VA clinical users will be added in a phased approach, based on their current use of interagency health data. As the system capacity expands, the number of VA users will be increased.
- ***Health Management Platform (HMP)*** delivery of new graphical user interface (GUI) tools at Hampton Roads, San Antonio, San Diego, and Loma Linda. HMP will deliver new tools to support Google-like search across an entire patient record, InfoButtons that provide context-specific knowledge resources for medications and patient education, improved medication reviews for enhanced safety, tasks for team-based coordination and follow-up, and newsfeed for rapid, chronological review of a patient's care and results.
- ***VistA Standardization*** of the 74 Core VistA products at Hampton Roads and San Antonio. Over the past 30 years, local site modifications have resulted in multiple instances, or variations, of VistA. Standardizing all instances of VistA with a common software package will allow VA to build and deploy new features in a more efficient manner.
- ***Immunization*** back-end enhancements installed at Hampton Roads and San Antonio.
- Initial release of ***Application Programming Interface (API)***, to expose a set of VistA services via standard web interfaces. Approximately 226 APIs will be exposed as services on the Enterprise Service Bus and Service Registry/Service Repository.

* VistA – Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture

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